



**Superior Court of California
COUNTY OF ALAMEDA**

Memorandum re Traffic Cases During the Covid-19 Court Closure

Date: Updated as of April 22, 2020

The following is designed to address incoming questions during the Court's COVID-19 closure period. It will be updated as needed, however, this is an ever-changing, fluid situation. We appreciate your patience.

1. What if I have a Court date scheduled between March 17, 2020, and May 1, 2020?

The Court has extended all traffic court time waiver trials, hearings and deadlines scheduled during the Court's closure by 120 days. This means that if you had a court appearance scheduled for any date between March 17 and May 1, 2020, your court date was automatically continued by the Court for approximately 120 days. Unless you notified the Court of a change of address, your new court date was or will be sent to you at the address on the traffic citation or Notice to Appear given to you by a law enforcement officer.

2. Will there be any extension for fines and Traffic School due dates?

If you had a deadline to pay or complete an activity, and that deadline is between March 17 and May 1, 2020, those deadlines have been automatically continued for 120 days. These extensions apply to:

- Traffic School Completion Due Dates
- Traffic School Fee Due Dates
- Bail Forfeiture Due Dates
- Installment Payment Due Dates
- Fine Due Dates
- Citation Due Dates
- Volunteer Work and Community Service Due Dates, and
- Trial by Declaration Due Dates

3. How Can I Get My Driver's License Hold Lifted?

If your driving privilege was suspended due to your failure to appear at a court hearing (FTA) or because of a failure to pay a fine, you may email asktraffic@alameda.courts.ca.gov or contact the Court using the information below to have the hold on your driver's license lifted:

- Wiley W. Manuel Courthouse - 661 Washington Street, Oakland, CA 94607
(510) 6 27-4700
- Fremont Hall of Justice - 39439 Paseo Padre Parkway, Fremont, CA 94538
(510) 818-7500
- East County Hall of Justice - 5151 Gleason Drive, Dublin, CA 94568
(925) 227-6700

The Court has suspended reporting FTAs to the Department of Motor Vehicles during the Court's public closure period.

4. What if I get a new citation instructing me to appear in court during the Court's closure?

All due dates on *new* traffic citations have been extended 180 days. So if you were recently cited by law enforcement for a traffic violation or other infraction offense, your first court date will not be scheduled for several months.

5. What if I have a No Time Waiver (NTW) trial scheduled between March 17, 2020, and May 1, 2020?

The March 30, 2020, [Statewide Order](#) of the Chief Justice and the Court's April 2, 2020, [Implementation Order](#) authorize the extension of the usual 45 day time limit for NTW trials by an additional 60 days. All NTW trials will be continued to a date within the new time limit. If the new trial date is inconvenient, litigants may waive time and their trials will be rescheduled to another date.

6. How can I waive time so that I can reschedule my trial date to another day?

Forms to request to waive time can be obtained at [Waiver of Rights - Speedy Trial](#), and can be submitted to asktraffic@alameda.courts.ca.gov or returned to one of the Court's drop boxes at any of the following courthouses:

- Wiley W. Manuel Courthouse - 661 Washington Street, Oakland, CA 94607
- Fremont Hall of Justice - 39439 Paseo Padre Parkway, Fremont, CA 94538
- East County Hall of Justice - 5151 Gleason Drive, Dublin, CA 94568

7. Are there any alternatives available for my trial?

Yes. The Court's emergency [Local Rule 4.115](#) has temporarily reduced bail in all infraction matters, including traffic, to \$0. Therefore, anyone with a pending no time waiver trial may elect to proceed with the trial by way of a Trial by Written Declaration, without being required to post any monetary bail. The Court will send notices to all litigants with a pending NTW trial advising them of this right and including instructions on how to make this request.

Litigants who do not wish to have a Trial by Written Declaration and do not wish to waive time are encouraged to consent to having their trials conducted by way of remote video appearance. This will allow litigants to appear at trial from the comfort of their own homes without the need to be present in the courtroom, in conformance with public health directives regarding social distancing and gathering sizes.

8. How do I request a Trial by Written Declaration?

Instructions and request forms can be obtained online at [TBD Instructions](#) [TBD Request](#) and submitted to asktraffic@alameda.courts.ca.gov

9. How can I request a trial by remote video appearance?

The Court will send consent forms and instructions to litigants with NTW trials. These forms can also be obtained on-line [here](#) and submitted to

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